

## Georgia Greenspace Program

Greenspace is permanently protected land and water, including agricultural and forestry land, that is in its undeveloped, natural state or that has been developed only to the extent consistent with, or is restored to be consistent with, one or more listed goals for natural resource protection or informal recreation.

### The Georgia Greenspace Program:

- Establishes a framework within which developed and rapidly developing counties and municipalities can preserve community greenspace.
- Promotes the local adoption of policies and rules to preserve at least 20 percent of a jurisdiction's land area as connected and open greenspace which can be used for informal recreation and natural resource protection.
- Provides state grants to help eligible local governments acquire fee-simple or lesser interests for the protection of greenspace.

The Georgia Greenspace Program is administratively attached to the Department of Natural Resources and is overseen by the Georgia Greenspace Commission, consisting of the Commissioner of Natural Resources, the Director of the Georgia Forestry Commission, and three other individuals appointed by the Governor. The program manages the Georgia Greenspace Trust Fund, which may include appropriated state funds, federal funds, donated funds, and any interest income. As requested by the Governor, \$30 million was appropriated to the fund for SFY-01.

Eligible local governments must prepare and submit a greenspace program prior to receiving grant funds. Northwest Georgia counties eligible for greenspace grant funds in SFY-01, and the amount for funds available to each, are:

<b><u>County</u></b>	<b><u>Grant Amount</u></b>
Bartow	\$287,577
Catoosa	\$214,202
Floyd	\$301,729
Murray	\$ 94,489
Paulding	\$400,818
Whitfield	\$256,461

